



"INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS. NEUTRAL IN NONE."

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## A RED HOT CAMPAIGN.

**Republicans and Democrats to Set the Prairies on Fire in Illinois This Year.**

**Wonderful Activity for an Off Year Developed in Illinois and Cook County Campaigns.**

**Republican Central Committee Under Direction of Chairman Fred Rowe Leads a "Strenuous Life."**

**Action of Democratic Leaders as Outlined in Last Week's Eagle Stirs Up Their Opponents.**

**Contest in Cook County and Illinois Close—Legislature Doubtful—Gossip of the Campaign.**

For an "off year" election the present is undoubtedly one of the liveliest campaigns that has been witnessed in the State of Illinois in a good many years.

The closeness of the contest in Cook County is acknowledged, all the candidates on both the county tickets are working like beavers, and most of them have decided to forego the usual vacations which supervene between nomination and election day.

Not only is the contest close in Cook County, but good judges of politics and political affairs are agreed that in the State, at least in spots, there is going to be the liveliest kind of a tussle this time.

Owing to complications and conditions elsewhere referred to in this edition the Legislature is doubtful; in fact it would not surprise most people should it under the circumstances go Democratic.

Independent candidates are as numerous as "leaves in Vallombrosa," and the cry is "Still they come." As for the State officers, while Hon. Fred Busse, the Republican candidate, has a "clinch" for the State Treasury, the same cannot be said of the other Republican candidates for State office.

Last week the Eagle pointed out the manner, detail and quality of the campaign which the Democratic leaders are engaged in putting up throughout the State.

From the facts then given it will be acknowledged that that party and its leaders propose to allow no grass to grow under their feet, but, on the contrary, are preparing to make a fight that will be historic, and unquestionably have results that cannot fail to have an effect upon the future of national politics from the Democratic point of view.

On the other hand, the Republican organization, leaders and candidates have gone in to make a fight of equally magnificent proportions and thoroughness of character.

The Republican campaign in Cook County will be opened in old-fashioned style, with an afternoon and evening celebration at Sans Souci Park. This was definitely decided upon at a dinner attended by the Hyde Park leaders at the Union restaurant Tuesday night.

It was first intended to make it a Hyde Park affair, but the members of the County Central Committee desire that this affair shall mark the opening of the fight, and it will be of a general nature. A number of speakers of national repute are to be invited, and it promises to be an auspicious occasion.

The date for the rally has not been decided, but it will probably be the second Saturday in September. The time cannot be definitely determined until it is known just when the amusement season at the park will close.

Among the prominent speakers who were talked of at the dinner were Senators Hanna, Beveridge and J. P. Doliver, and Congressman Littlefield. The Hyde Park men in the Republican organization purpose to make this one of the most auspicious gatherings ever held in Cook County in an off year.

Committees were appointed and ordered to start the preparations at once. T. N. Jamieson was named as chairman of the general committee and will

direct the arrangements. E. W. Sims was selected as secretary and E. F. Bryant was made treasurer. These officers are to name the other members of the campaign committee for Hyde Park.

All of the Hyde Park candidates, and, in fact, every active leader in the district, were present at the dinner. It partook of the nature of a heart-to-heart discussion of the best manner in which to conduct the campaign. For five hours those at the table were given an opportunity to express their views. All agreed that the prospects are bright for good results from an affair such as is planned.

The following chairmen of the various sub-committees were named: Speakers, Harry Pratt Judson; Reception, J. H. Thompson; Entertainment, W. A. Coleman; Commissary, Fred A. Warren; Printing, W. A. Small; Finance, E. F. Bryant; Transportation, Charles G. Randall.

There will be abundance to eat and plenty of soft drink provided. A program that will entertain the women is to be arranged for the afternoon celebration. There will be fireworks at night, and plenty of music.

The affair is to be advertised extensively and the leaders promise some novel features on the program.

The same line of work will be started and maintained all through the State under the able supervision of Fred H. Rowe, the hard-working and efficient chairman of the Republican State Central Committee. The best orators obtainable, men whose reputation is national, will be requisitioned and their work directed with as much care and strenuousness as if the campaign was national instead of a comparatively local character.

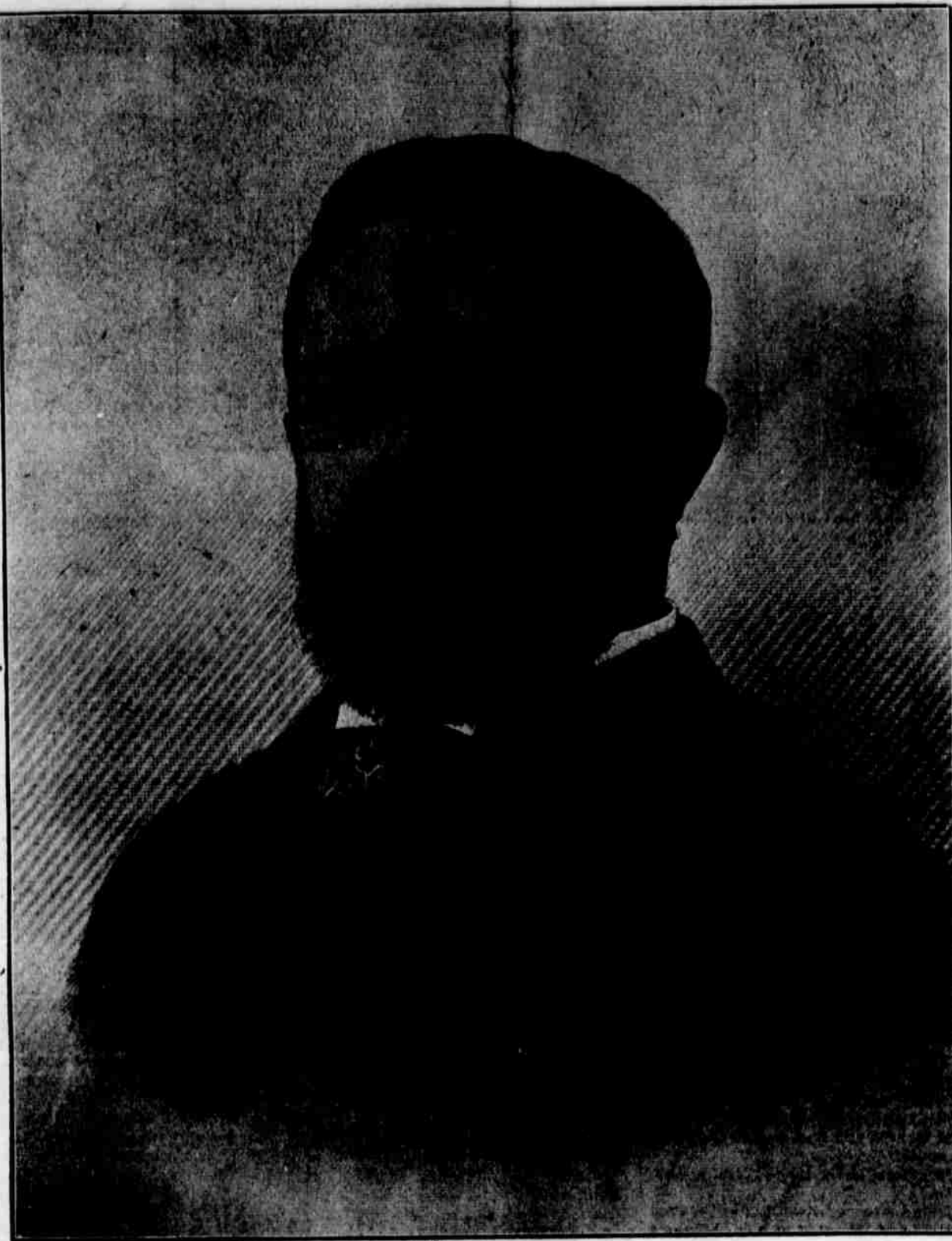
A number of county chairmen have written to the State headquarters asking for poll books and other printed matter usually supplied by the committee for the purpose of making a thorough canvass of their respective counties. Wednesday more than 800 poll books were sent out from the Republican headquarters in response to requests of this nature.

Chairman Rowe has appointed C. R. Kelley Sergeant-at-Arms of the committee and Mr. Kelley has taken up his duties and is busy daily bundling and shipping packages of poll books. Most of these early requests for poll books come from counties in the southern section of the State. A few of the northern counties have also asked for poll books.

The Republican County Executive Committee met Tuesday, but transacted nothing but routine business. The question of a successor to P. B. Olsen as candidate for State Senator was not discussed.

The Republican State Subcommittee on Finance met Thursday afternoon to talk over plans for funds for the campaign.

No Republican candidates for Congress have been nominated in three districts in Chicago. These districts are overwhelmingly Democratic. The conventions in those districts adjourned without making nominations and referred the question of candidates to



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the County Committee, which has as yet taken no action in the matter. Word has come from the Republican National Congressional Committee that it is desired that Republican candidates for Congress be named in all districts.

"It means," said Secretary Hoy of the Republican State Committee, "that our people are wide awake and are not taking chances. They mean to offset the hard slump in the off-year vote with hard work."

"It means," said Chairman Hopkins of the Democratic State Committee, "that the Democratic party of Illinois is on its feet, sees a chance to win and intends to take advantage of the opportunity."

Daniel D. Healy will leave the wardenship of the county hospital August 1 to give his entire time thereafter until November to his candidacy for Sheriff. Charles J. Happel, Deputy Warden, has been appointed to succeed Mr. Healy in the Wardenship.

Democratic State headquarters were moved Wednesday from Parlor 1, Sherman House, to suite 301, on the second floor. Just as soon as the committee can get settled active preparations for the campaign will be taken up.

Assistant Building Commissioner O'Shea says that "a fire like that which cost so many lives at the St. Luke Society Sanitarium could not occur again in Chicago." Well, let us hope not, but time will tell. Meanwhile what about the theaters, Mr. O'Shea? A worse horror is liable to occur in these institutions any day.

The Democratic county candidates met at the Briggs House Tuesday and settled talk of their trying to get Peter Klobassa off the ticket, on account of the attacks on his work as City Building Commissioner, by making him chairman of the meeting. Albert Fisher, R. B. Organ and Thomas E. Barrett were delegated to confer with the three-sided campaign committee and arrange for a meeting of committee and candidates later on. The candidates favor Judge Tuley for chairman of the Campaign Committee, but he has told them that he cannot give the requisite time. Joseph Donnersberger is their second choice, and is likely to be chosen. City Attorney Owens is favored by the candidates for secretary of the Campaign Com-

mittee and Charles H. Wacker for treasurer.

Time and again the Eagle has asserted and has advanced proof in sustenance of its assertion that the institution known as the City Civil Service Commission, and the law upon which it has been founded have been a detriment rather than a benefit to the public service of this city.

Time and the developments have demonstrated the truth of our allegations and assertions at that time.

It is now announced officially that State's Attorney Deeney has filed a suit in quo warranto which will test the legality of the Civil Service examination by which the present list of eligibles for police captains was obtained. Ever since that examination was held lawyers have claimed it was illegal, but no opportunity came by which it could be determined until the recent appointment from it of Lieut. P. D. O'Brien as captain in the Twenty-second Street District. The suit is against O'Brien and asks by what warrant he holds his present place.

Although brought in the name of the State's Attorney, as the law requires, the influence back of it is supposed to be the Tilden Democracy, that organization claiming that O'Brien, while lieutenant in charge of the district comprising the Second Ward, was unduly active in the defeat of the Hopkins faction of the Democrats at the last primary election. His captancy he received as a reward, it is asserted, two men ahead of him on the eligible list being persuaded to waive their claims in his favor.

The ground on which the examination is attacked is that the law requiring a man to serve one year in a position before he can take an examination for the next higher was grossly violated. O'Brien as well as most of the others on the eligible list was appointed a Civil Service lieutenant in April of 1901 and allowed to take an examination for captain just two months afterward. With this list declared illegal, either a new examination will have to be held or the one which existed beforehand reinstated.

Whatever may be the influence back of the State's Attorney's motion in the matter, all good citizens anxious for the fair fame and good reputation of the city of Chicago will join in the hope that the result may be a complete overhauling of the Civil Service system and

the methods which have prevailed therein from its inception. The workings of this system have unquestionably been productive of more scandals than have occurred or arisen in any other branch or subordinate division of the city administration. From the start of the system down to the present one muddle after another has followed in steady succession in this branch of the municipal government. It has been the fruitful source of legislative inquiries, and of many other investigations. Unless we are very much mistaken, the step Mr. Deeney proposes to take will be a long one in the direction of much needed reform in the management of this institution.

The Chicago public hopes that the trip East of the Council Committee on Local Transportation will be something more than a mere junketing excursion. It is said the purpose is to investigate the underground trolley in Washington and New York and the subways in New York and Boston, and the promise is that the work of the body will be thorough.

The committee goes from here direct to New York Monday. It will be in Washington for a couple of days, and go from there to Boston for two days more, getting back to Chicago on Sunday.

Trips of this kind have rarely been productive of anything beyond "big heads" on the part of the participants, and the Eagle can recall a good many of them. It is to be hoped this one will prove an exception to the rule.

The Police Pension Board, which met Thursday morning, took up a list of petitions for pensions which have been accumulating for three months. Under an opinion recently given by City Attorney Owens widows of policemen who died from natural causes after having been in the service ten years are entitled to no specific pensions and must be satisfied with any amount the board may vote them. As such widows are said to constitute about one-third of the pensioners it is only right that in this direction a cut should be made in the monthly pay-roll.

The wonder is, under the circumstances and in view of all the charges of treachery and trading, how there can be any Democrat at all in office. Somebody in the party must be in earnest, or have our Democratic city and county officials been elected by mistake?

## WAR ON SLOT MACHINES

**The Board of Review Imposes Taxes, While the Chief of Police Smashes Them.**

**General Public Vigorously Demands the Absolute Prohibition of All Devices of the Kind.**

**Claim that Occasionally the Manufacture of the Harmless Kind Is Used as a Blind,**

**Under Cover of Which the Obnoxious Machines Are Made and Sold in Chicago.**

**People Demand that Efforts of City Administration Be Backed Up by Radical Legislation.**

There should be no tax on slot gambling machines; the manufacture of them should be absolutely prohibited in Chicago.

This was the general comment during the past week in connection with the announcement through the daily paper that the Board of Review had been engaged in the work of assessing the manufacturers of these devices very heavily upon the machines as personal property.

The present city administration has taken a distinctly hostile stand toward slot machines, classing them as gambling devices, and it seems strange that one branch of our local government should undertake to tax and thereby inferentially legalize something which another branch has characterized and treated as unlawful and obnoxious.

This at least is the way in which the public looks at the matter, and is an epitome of the general discussion of the subject by the citizens of Chicago during the week just closed.

That the city administration has put members of the Board of Assessors of gambling may be judged from the reported colloquy between one of the members of the Board of Assessors and a purveyor of slot machines:

The slot machine manufacturer sidled into a chair before Reviser Upham to protest against a valuation of \$2,200 on his personal property from being raised.

"What is your business?" he was asked.

"Slot machines," came the answer.

"You certainly have over \$2,200 worth," suggested Upham.

"Well, I have fifty machines."

"What would you call a fair valuation on them?"

"They are not worth a cent—that is, since Chief O'Neill came into office?"

"Won't he stand for them?"

"Stand for 'em? Why, he smashes 'em."

**BUSINESS RUINED BY POLICE.**

After the laugh caused by this response had died away he related his troubles more fully. He declared that his property was thrust away in a storehouse, unproductive and unsalable.

"How much money have you?" insisted Upham.

"Me—why, I'm broke."

This is just as it should be, and Chief O'Neill and the city administration deserve commendation for their attitude in the matter. But the Eagle believes it is voicing the sentiments of the community when it says that the gambling slot machine business should be stamped out in this city by positive legislation in the City Council. If necessary, in the State Legislature. Most thinking citizens of Chicago claim that an ordinance, and if an ordinance should be ineffective, an act of the Legislature, should be passed prohibiting the manufacture of any and all kinds of slot machines in this city.

What are known as the "rending" slot machines which supply peanuts, gum, perfume and other commodities are harmless in their way, although they are generally voted nuisances; but if the manufacturing and selling of slot machines in this city was confined to this particular class of machine, it is admitted there would be no outcry in this regard. The trouble,

however, consists in the allegation that this is not so. The point raised is this, that if it is illegal to sell or to operate gambling machines in Chicago the law should be broad and efficient enough to prevent the manufacture of them here. If the manufacture of apparently harmless machines is being used as a blind for the trading in obnoxious machines, then the law should be capable of preventing and prohibiting the manufacture of all of them. If the law is so framed it is safe to predict that Chief O'Neill will enforce it.

The esteemed Chicago American had an article in a recent editorial in which the assertion was boldly made that in the legislative campaign the "Democratic bosses" were "playing into the hands of the Republicans." What, for, pray?

If the esteemed Chronicle on the one hand and the esteemed American on the other are correct in their estimates of the different sections of the Democratic party, one must inevitably believe that there is not an honest man at all in the entire party.

Members of the County Democratic Central Committee from outside the city met at the headquarters of Thomas E. Barrett, candidate for Sheriff, on Wednesday, and offered a list of names of men to act as judges and clerks of election next fall. County Commissioners Flanagan, Daley and Thiele, representing the County Board, conferred with the committee.

Chief of Police O'Neill must be coaching his men in more accomplishments than those in the musical line. The result of a contest between one of the finest and Postoffice Inspector Stuart the other day would go far toward demonstrating this.

In a race between the Inspector and Detective Sergeant Gallagher of the Central Station from Omaha to Genoa, Neb., where a prisoner, alleged to be connected with the extensive forgery scheme discovered in Chicago, was held, Detective Gallagher won. For over a day the two men were on the way to Genoa, Neb., where Harry Brown was being held on telegrams signed by Detective Sergeant John Thompson, Gallagher's partner. Brown was found through a letter in the possession of his supposed wife arrested in Milwaukee a few days ago. The post-office officials wish to prosecute the alleged forgers on charges of breaking into mail boxes in Chicago and Milwaukee.

Gallagher wired to Chicago Tuesday that he was in Genoa and had his prisoner in charge, and that he would be here Wednesday afternoon. Stuart is still in Nebraska, looking up evidence. Since the arrest of Claude and George Holmes, Mary Roltsch and John Hogan, the Government officials have been endeavoring to get possession of the prisoners, but Detective Thompson says: "When I get through with them you can have them. I made the arrest and I am following it up."

If Chief O'Neill is making expert sprinters of his men he is teaching them to run after the law-breakers and not away from them.